

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/649,708	MORAG ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Steven E. Holton	2629	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment after final filed on 6/7/2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-11, 13-15, 17-29, 31, 34, 36-42, 53-56, 58-60, 63, 66, 67 and 70-72.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 - * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office Action is made in response to applicant's amendment after final filed on 6/7/2007. Claims 1-11, 13-15, 17-29, 31, 34, 36-42, 53-56, 58-60, 63, 66, 67, and, 70-72 are currently pending in the application. An action follows below:

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1-11, 13-15, 17-29, 31, 34, 36-42, 53-56, 58-60, 63, 66, 67, and, 70-72 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The present invention is directed to a transparent sensor arrangement to be used with an electronic display device. Independent claims 1, 53, 54, and 58 identify the uniquely distinct features an arrangement of transparent sensors and amplifiers with dedicated connections between sensor outputs and amplifier inputs. As stated above in the response to arguments, the sensor and amplifier arrangement is formed so that amplifiers have two specific and unchanging inputs connected to the outputs of two sensors within the sensing arrangement. The closest prior art, Yoshida discloses a sensor and amplifier arrangement where the outputs of sensors are selected by switch to connect to the inputs of the amplifiers, at different time intervals different sensors are connected to the amplifier; therefore, the teachings of Yoshida fail to anticipate or render the above underlined limitations obvious.

Independent claim 59 and related dependent claim 19 identify the uniquely distinct features “respectively non-neighboring sensors per amplifier being selected such that different object positions generate outputs at different combinations of amplifiers thereby permitting different amplifier combinations to be decoded to individual sensors”. The closest prior art, Yoshida discloses using only 2 amplifiers able to be read for each of the input sensor wires through selectable inputs for the amplifier. Rather than using multiple amplifiers, each assigned to specific input sensors, Yoshida uses a few amplifiers able to obtain inputs from selectable input sensors, thus Yoshida fails to anticipate or render the above underlined limitations obvious.

Independent claim 60 identifies the unique feature “wherein said excitation arrangement is operable to use a state of said object to set dynamically controllable property”. This is drawn to an excitation pulse that creates an electronic response from the input object. The input object has multiple states based on button presses or similar that change the electronic response from the input object. The excitation pulse is modulated or changed based on the measured electronic response returned from the input object. The closest prior art, Yoshida and Weiner provide excitation pulses that cause an electronic response from an input object, but fail to provide a method to change the excitation pulses used to excite the sensor arrangement based on the state of the input object.

Independent claim 72 identifies the unique feature of “the distance between said first and second sensor is larger than the effective range of the signal transmitted by said object.” This is drawn to purposely selecting the sensor wires to be provided to the

amplifiers to be physically located far enough apart that only one of the wires would be able to receive a signal from the emitting object. The closest prior art, Yoshida fails to provide such a requirement to the measurement of the signals of the sensor arrangement.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Steven E. Holton whose telephone number is (571) 272-7903. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Amr Awad can be reached on (571) 272-7764. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

AMR A. AWAD
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER



Art Unit: 2629

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Steven E. Holton
Division 2629
June 22, 2007